

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Hotline  
(360) 902-2500  
Coastal Commercial Message

Commercial Msg. 1

This commercial hotline message # 1 was recorded April 18, 2016, updating the status of the coastal commercial fisheries.

**Commercial Troll**

**MAY - JUNE FISHERY**

Washington catch areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be open for a Chinook directed, all-salmon-except-coho fishery beginning May 1 and The fishery will be open for the following open periods: May 1-3, May 6-10, May 13-17, May 20-24, May 27-31, Jun 3-5, Jun 10-16, and June 24-30. The fishery will close the earliest of June 30 or attainment of the quota of 14,000 Chinook, no more than 4,600 of which may be caught in the area between the U.S.-Canada border and the Queets River and no more than 4,600 of which may be caught in the area between Leadbetter Point and Cape Falcon. All salmon **except coho** are legal. There is a landing and possession limit of **40** Chinook per vessel per open period. Mandatory Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area, Cape Flattery and Columbia Control Zones are closed.

Vessels must land and deliver their fish within 24 hours of any closure of this fishery and in Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4. **Vessels in possession of salmon north or south of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW by phone at (360)249-1215 or by email at [Wendy.Beehley@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Wendy.Beehley@dfw.wa.gov) with Boat name, Area fished, total Chinook and halibut catch on board, and destination.** Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing north of Leadbetter Point must land their fish within the area and north of Leadbetter Point. Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing south of Leadbetter Point must land their fish within the area and south of Leadbetter Point. The minimum size limit for Chinook is 28 inches. All salmon except coho are legal. Gear is restricted to all legal troll gear with single point, single shank barbless hooks **only**.

JULY 8 - August 23 FISHERY will be added to the hotline later in the year.

**HALIBUT**

The operator of a vessel that has been issued an incidental halibut harvest license may retain Pacific halibut caught incidentally in area 2A during authorized periods while trolling for salmon. License holders may land no more than 1 halibut per each 3 Chinook, except 1 halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement. No more than 20 halibut may be landed per trip. Halibut retained must meet the minimum size limit of 32 inches total length with head on. Incidental halibut harvest is authorized only during the May and June troll season. Additional halibut harvest may be authorized after June 30 if part of the quota remains and if announced on the NMFS hotline at 1-800-662-9825. In-season action may be taken to avoid exceeding the commercial halibut allocation.

The Washington State Quick Reporting System will be in effect throughout the 2016 commercial troll fishery. All wholesale dealers or trollers retailing their fish will be required to report their

landing by 10:00 AM the day following delivery. Reports can be made by telephoning 1-866-791-1279 or faxing to 1-360-902-2949 and reporting the fish ticket number, the gear, the dealer name, the dealer number, the catch area, the date of landing, the number of days fished, the number of fish by species and the total weight by species including halibut.

Groundfish regulations will be included in the troll mail. If you do not receive this information please call Doug Milward at 360-902-2739 before going fishing.

**Commercial troll fisheries are managed on a quota. Open days, landing and possession limits or any other regulation could change at any time. Always contact the fisheries hotline (1-360-902-2500) prior to going fishing.**

Thank you for calling the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife coastal commercial hotline.